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TUTANKHAMEN'S EFFIGY WALKS OUT

This life-size wooden dummy which is believed to have been made in the likeness of the King, was carved out of hard wood, painted and gilded. The native in the photograph is carrying the figure so that it looks as if it had legs and were walking. (See Bulletin No. 5.)

HOW TO OBTAIN THE BULLETIN

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American Indian Staging "Come-Back"

LIKE his old friend, the buffalo, the American Indian is making a come-back. Figures recently announced by the Bureau of Indian Affairs show our American Indian population is now 344,303, a gain of 1,144 over last year.

Not only last year, but for thirty years, the redmen have steadily been gaining on their death rate.

Today there are six Indians per square mile on reservations which comprise an area not much smaller than that of all New England. According to the best estimates available there was an average of only one Indian for every three square miles when white people first came to American shores. If only two-thirds of the United States were occupied by red skins at the present reservation population rate, there would be 12,000,000 Indians in the United States today.

Aboriginal Population Small

Massasoit gave the Pilgrim fathers corn, but the fact is that Massasoit and his kith and kin lived for the most part by products of the chase. Deer, buffalo, bear, and rabbit were their pork and beef, and berries and nuts their potatoes. Even verdant America could not support an intense population living in this fashion. The total Indian population at the time Columbus landed at San Salvador is set at about 846,000. If all the tribes, from the Pacific to the Atlantic, and from the Gulf to the Great Lakes, had assembled at one great powwow, they would have made up a community not so large as Detroit and only a few thousand greater than Cleveland or Boston.

White men's guns decimated some tribes, but disease, dissipation, and epidemics which came with the white men spread death more surely. Smallpox epidemics swept through the western tribes three times between 1781 and 1837 with more fatal results than the influenza plague of 1918. A peculiar fever killed 70,000 Indians in California and Oregon in one year. By 1890 the Indian population had been reduced to 243,000, therefore the present population represents an increase of nearly 100,000 in 30 years.

Form Richest Group on Earth

One American Indian tribe today is the richest people on the face of the earth. Beneath the lands of the Osage Indian tribe in Oklahoma oil was discovered. Their wells produce $50,000,000 worth of oil annually, and Uncle Sam, who handles the business for his red brother, distributes to each member of the tribe from $10,000 to $12,000 every year. In 1922 more than 29,000,000 barrels of oil were produced on Osage lands.

Partial adaptation to the white man's ways and care by Uncle Sam are responsible for the increase in Indian population. The redman may still be a hunter, but a visitor to a reservation will find the red skin useful as well as noble. He is often a rancher, dairy farmer, gardener, weaver, pottery maker, rugmaker, poultry raiser, typist, bookeeper, miner, lumberer, guide, and he even clips coupons.

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THE AMERICAN BUFFALO MULTIPLIES

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Canada has authorized the slaughter of part of her great buffalo herd of 8,000 head. It had become unwieldy by reason of the rapid increase of its population. America's wild and reserve herds in Yellowstone National Park are kept at approximately 700 head by sale and by gifts to municipal zoos.

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Helium Revives Importance of Zeppelins

PURCHASE of German Zeppelin patents and trade information by an American company emphasizes the improvements in lighter-than-air machines which make them again competitors of the heavier-than-air planes. Substitution of helium gas for the inflammable hydrogen gas, which caused such a heavy loss of life in the wrecking of the United States navy dirigible ZR-2 over Hull, England, appears to be the most important departure in construction of new Zeppelins.

"The Shenandoah," the new navy dirigible which has made successful flights along the Atlantic coast and to the Middle West, uses helium to prevent explosions.

A communication to the National Geographic Society by the late G. Sherburne Rogers, outlines the important properties of helium.

The qualities of helium that make it so valuable for use in balloons are its lightness and its incombustibility. Helium is the lightest of the so-called inert gases, which do not combine with oxygen or any other substance and therefore cannot explode or burn.

One Bullet Can "Get" Hydrogen Balloon

Hydrogen, the gas commonly used in filling balloons, is, on the other hand, highly inflammable. Many a great balloon, or rigid airship, costing hundreds of thousands of dollars to construct, has been destroyed by fire in a few minutes—some by lightning, some by sparks from the motor, and others by any one of the numerous accidents that may happen even when the craft is in its hangar.

In military balloons or airships the fire hazard is, of course, greatly increased, a single well-placed incendiary bullet being sufficient to transform the whole costly structure into a mass of flames; and in this event the fate of the crew is practically sealed. This weakness, inherent in all hydrogen-filled balloons, has always been a drawback to the development of the lighter-than-air craft.

With the fire hazard completely eliminated by the use of helium, however, the risks of ballooning are greatly decreased and many new possibilities open up. The power plant of the airship may be placed as close as desired to the great gas bag without fear of sparks, and by thus making the design more compact and so reducing the wind resistance, the speed and cruising radius of the craft may be materially increased.

The only apparent disadvantage of helium is the fact that it is about twice as heavy as hydrogen, 100 cubic feet of helium weighing 17.8 ounces and the same volume of hydrogen only 9 ounces. Both gases, however, are so exceedingly light in comparison with air (which weighs 8 pounds per 100 cubic feet) that this is of little practical importance, the buoyancy, or lifting power, of helium being 93 per cent that of hydrogen. Moreover, this greater weight has its compensation, for hydrogen is so light that it passes through the walls of the gas bag and escapes at a far more rapid rate than helium.

Helium in the Heavens

By means of the spectroscope helium was discovered on the sun in 1868. It was not until 1895, however, that it was known to exist on the earth, and it was

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Two Hundred Tribes Salvaged

Out of the ruin of Indian civilization more than 200 tribes have been salvaged. These tribes are lodged on nearly 200 reservations varying from tiny rancherias in California to the great Navajo reservation in Arizona and New Mexico larger than the state of Maryland. The Bureau of Indian Affairs is the guardian of these tribes. It is a government by itself, having a cabinet of six commissioners, and undertaking all-encompassing activities typical of which are a probate court, trust company, public roads commission, orphan asylum, town building, and operation of a philanthropic association, bank, and employment agency.

Recently the redman once more daubed himself with garish war paint, dressed himself in all his feathers, and hit the war path. The path led to Utah and the Indians broke into the movies. Uncle Sam gave permission for the Shoshoni and Arapaho tribes of the Wind River reservation in Wyoming to be used in the making of pictures.

Bulletin No. 1, November 19, 1923.

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BIG CHIEF NOW HUNTS WITH TRANSIT

The irrigable lands belonging to the Indians form one of their principal sources of wealth and also form probably the best opportunity for these people to become individually self-supporting. In some sections the Indians are better acquainted with irrigation farming than the whites. (See Bulletin No. 1.)

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Alexandria, Washington's Home Town

CEREMONIES connected with laying the cornerstone of a new memorial to George Washington, overlooking Alexandria, Virginia, across the river from Washington, D. C., lend interest to the history of this venerable city which was the Marion, Ohio, of 1789. George Washington was a member of the Masonic Lodge of Alexandria when the capital city, north of the Potomac, still was a dream.

Washington surveyed the town lots of Alexandria. He also commanded its troops, was a member of its fire company, sat in its historic Christ Church while President of the United States and tripped the stately minuet in its parlors.

Alexandria, Virginia, which was so promising at the close of the Revolutionary War that it was considered a possible seat for the infant National Government, and which indeed might have had the honor, so the story goes, if the great man who lived within a stone's throw of its borders had thought it fair to use his influence in its behalf, is today an up-and-doing city. A naval torpedo plant is being constructed there and during the World War it had a fully-equipped ship-building plant.

The coal fields of the Cumberland are but 100 miles away and the cheapness of transportation to the city adds another commercial asset. The inhabitants in the decade between 1830 and 1840 foresaw the power which was coming into being to the west of them, and expended large amounts of money in building the Alexandria Canal and in contributions to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal from Cumberland to tidewater. Very aptly might Alexandria, from its geographical position, be given the soubriquet, "The Gateway to the South."

A Shrine Near the American Mecca

Tourists to the Capital City—and everyone feels that sooner or later he must see the Capitol, the White House, and the Monument—usually find a few hours, if no more, to cross the Potomac and sit in the silence of the quaint little church in its pretty green churchyard where Washington advocated before the townspeople in 1774 resistance to Great Britain, and where Robert E. Lee agreed to take command of the Virginia troops at the beginning of the Civil War in 1861. Washington's pew is marked today, but unfortunately the high backs of the seats, which in former days kept the President from seeing exactly what kinds of lace the bewigged gentlemen in front of him had at their throats, were cut down by a subsequent rector who wanted his church to keep apace of the times. It is said that Washington and the famous and devoted Martha always rode from Mt. Vernon in a handsome cream colored coach to attend the services.

The seeker for excellent examples of Colonial architecture can heave a sigh of satisfaction when he catches his first glimpse of Carlyle House, as this home in which the illustrious gentlemen and charming women of old colony days discussed state questions and tripped a measure or two is considered one of the best specimens of the eighteenth century architecture in existence. Major John Carlyle, who built it in 1752, provided a means of escape for his family, in case of at-

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then believed to be a very rare element. It was when helium was discovered in 1903 to constitute between 1 and 2 per cent of the millions of cubic feet of natural gas going to waste in Kansas, that its use for inflating balloons first became a possibility; but no one seems to have thought of such a use for the newly-found gas until after the beginning of the World War.

Before the war the world's total supply of helium was probably less than 100 cubic feet, and its value was about $1,700 per cubic foot. Experiments conducted by the United States during the war showed that the element could be recovered from natural gas at a cost of less than ten cents a cubic foot.

U. S. Has World Supply

Since the Armistice a huge plant for isolating helium has been constructed at Fort Worth where the supply of natural gas for both Fort Worth and Dallas is used as raw material. The plant turns out 10,000 to 15,000 cubic feet of helium daily, and is capable of a maximum output of 35,000 to 40,000 cubic feet.

The use of helium gas requires balloons of somewhat different design, since even at ten cents a foot the gas is too valuable to be "valved" or allowed to escape to regulate buoyancy.

At present all helium produced by the government in its unique plant is stored compressed in steel cylinders. Cylinders on hand can take care of 18,000,000 cubic feet. The hundreds of thousands of cubic feet of helium which the Army and Navy now have "filed away" in their metal containers constitute practically the world supply.

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To Hunt "Lost Tribes" of China

THE National Geographic Society has announced the sending of an expedition into remotest China to search for human traces of east Asia's history before the Chinese came, to hunt for specimens of a monkey believed to be the largest non-anthropoid species in the world, and to collect botanical specimens in a spacious region virgin to scientific study.

Kweichow, where the mysterious non-Chinese tribes of China dwell, is the objective of the expedition. This province, about the size of Missouri, with a population estimated at 8,000,000, is as inaccessible as Tibet. It is the least fertile, least visited, and most backward portion of China.

An "Ethnic Circus Troupe"

Yet the strange tribes, which suggest that some ethnic circus troupe was stranded there, make Kweichow a possible vista of hitherto unrecorded human history. One of the few visitors among these tribes, who makes no claim to being a student of anthropology, said he saw types resembling the Gurkha, the South Sea Islander, the American Indian, the East Indian, and the Negro.

It may develop that some or all of these strange tribes constitute the American Indians of China. Another writer says that the process of Chinese absorption has been going on among them since 2356 B. C.!

Shut Off from News of World

Between two and three million of the non-Chinese populace survive. Many of their strongholds never have been visited by white men; whole tribes did not know the World War was in progress. While China was stirred by the Shantung problem because the Chinese feared encroachments in the province of Confucius' tomb, these tribes were oblivious of any "Shantung problem," though they may retain the vestiges of a culture spread over the whole of southern China in the days when Confucius taught.

Occasional travelers who have penetrated villages of some of these tribes tell how one of them thrashes grain on the roof tops as in the Holy Land; how others have great "prayer flags" flying on fortified castles; and how quarrels are settled on horseback with blunderbusses, broadswords, and bags of stones as the weapons in these curious jousts.

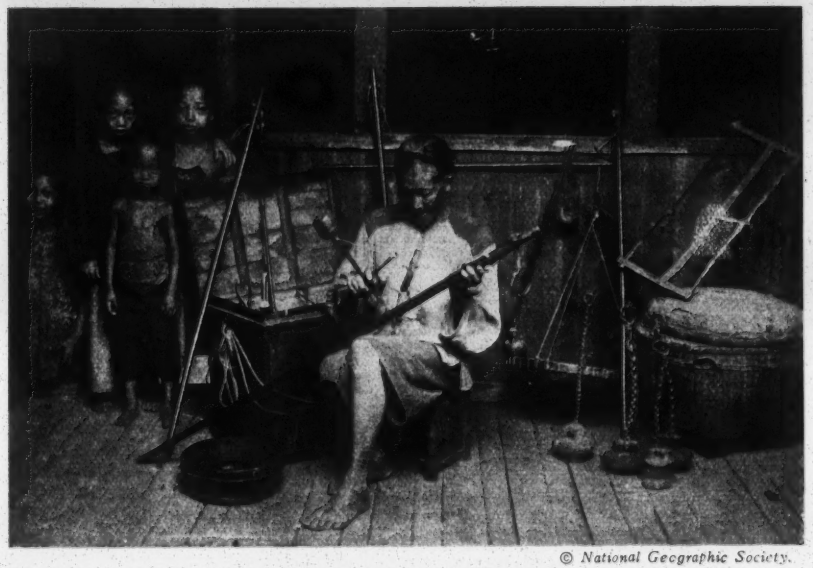
Kweichow has escaped zoological collectors, although it holds hope of many animal prizes. It lies on the watershed between the Yangtze and the West River. Its northern mountains are a continuation of the Tibetan system. Therefore the faunas of Indo-China, of the mountains, and of the Yangtze Valley should meet within its borders.

May Be Animal Famous in Literature

The monkey the expedition particularly hopes to find is the *Rhinopithecus Brelichi*, of which the only evidence now available is the skin of a female which shows a head and body measurement of 29 inches and a tail measurement of 39

tack by the Indians, in a subterranean passage that leads from the house through the fort on which the house is located to the Potomac. Here they could get into boats and sail down the river to safety.

Bulletin No. 3, November 19, 1923.



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A CHINESE BUREAU OF STANDARDS

Although to the visitor the Chinese seem careless in their standards of measurement or weight, the shoe is usually on the other foot. Until recently, even the silver bullion which served as currency was weighed and the seller bargained around until he discovered the most friendly steelyards. The Chinese steelyard is not steel at all, but made of some heavy wood, with the weights marked with small [illegible] or steel points. (See Bulletin No. 4.)

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Pure Honey—3,300 Years Old

REOPENING of Tutankhamen's tomb by Howard Carter, associate of the late Lord Carnarvon, discoverer of the tomb, in which was found, among priceless relics, a jar with perfume still retaining its scent, recalls the equally amazing find in 1905 of a jar of honey, still liquid and still preserving its characteristic scent after 3,300 years.

This remarkable announcement was made in a communication to the National Geographic Society by James Baikie. The honey was found in the tomb of Yuaa and Thuaa, father and mother of that Queen Tyi whose influence played so great a part in Akhenaten's religious reformation.

The tomb was intact and the objects it contained were as perfectly preserved as though they had only been shut up a few weeks before. An observer described his sensations on entering the place as being very much like those of a man who enters a town house which has been shut up for the summer.

Armchairs stood about, beautifully carved and decorated with gold, the cushions on one of them stuffed with down, and covered with linen so perfectly preserved that they might have been sat upon or tossed about without injury. Two beds of fine design decorated with gold occupied another part of the chamber, while a light chariot in perfect preservation stood in a corner.

One looked from one article to another with the feeling that the entire human conception of time was wrong. These were the things of yesterday, of a year or two ago.

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inches. There has been speculation regarding the possibility of this species being an animal described in a famous passage of Chinese literature as follows:

"Its nose is turned upward, and the tail very long and forked at the end; whenever it rains, the animal thrusts the forks into its nose. It goes in herds and lives in friendship; when one dies the rest accompany it to burial. Its activity is so great that it runs its head against the trees; its fur is soft and gray and the face black."

Going directly to Peking, Frederick R. Wulsin, leader of the National Geograpic Society expedition, will first take with him into Kweichow a Chinese botanist and a staff of Chinese assistants for a reconnaissance. Later he will be accompanied by a party comprising botanists, zoologists, and anthropologists. The last named will study the origin, physique, habits, language, and rich mythology of the non-Chinese tribes which vary, in all these respects, from their Chinese neighbors.

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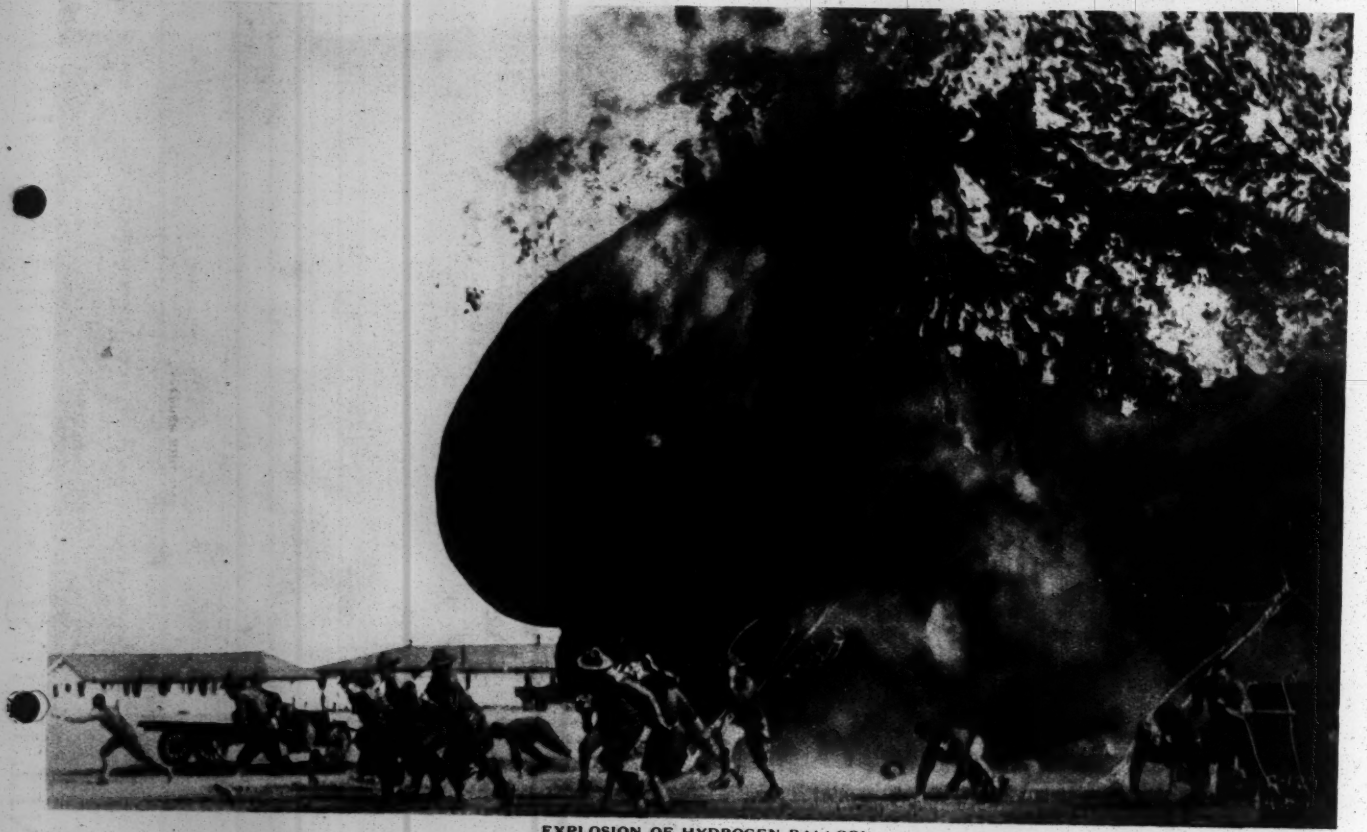
CAMEL-BACK BRIDGE IN THE GROUNDS OF THE IMPERIAL SUMMER PALACE, PEKING



EXPLOSION OF HYDROGEN BALLOON

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Helium will not burn as did the hydrogen gas in this dirigible at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. The explosion was probably caused by a defective electric connection, a spark from the engine or the wireless apparatus. Helium has nearly the same buoyancy as hydrogen. (See Bulletin No. 2.)